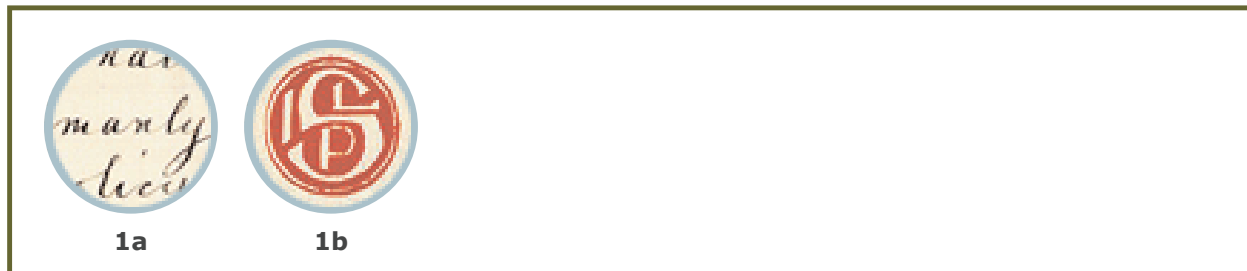




Source 1

1a: Resolutions of Labour Party branches concerning the war, August-September 1914
(Catalogue ref: PRO 30/69/1234, published by agreement of the Altrincham District Branch Labour Party)

1b: Resolutions of Labour Party branches concerning the war, August-September 1914
(Catalogue ref: PRO 30/69/1234, published by agreement of the Labour Party)



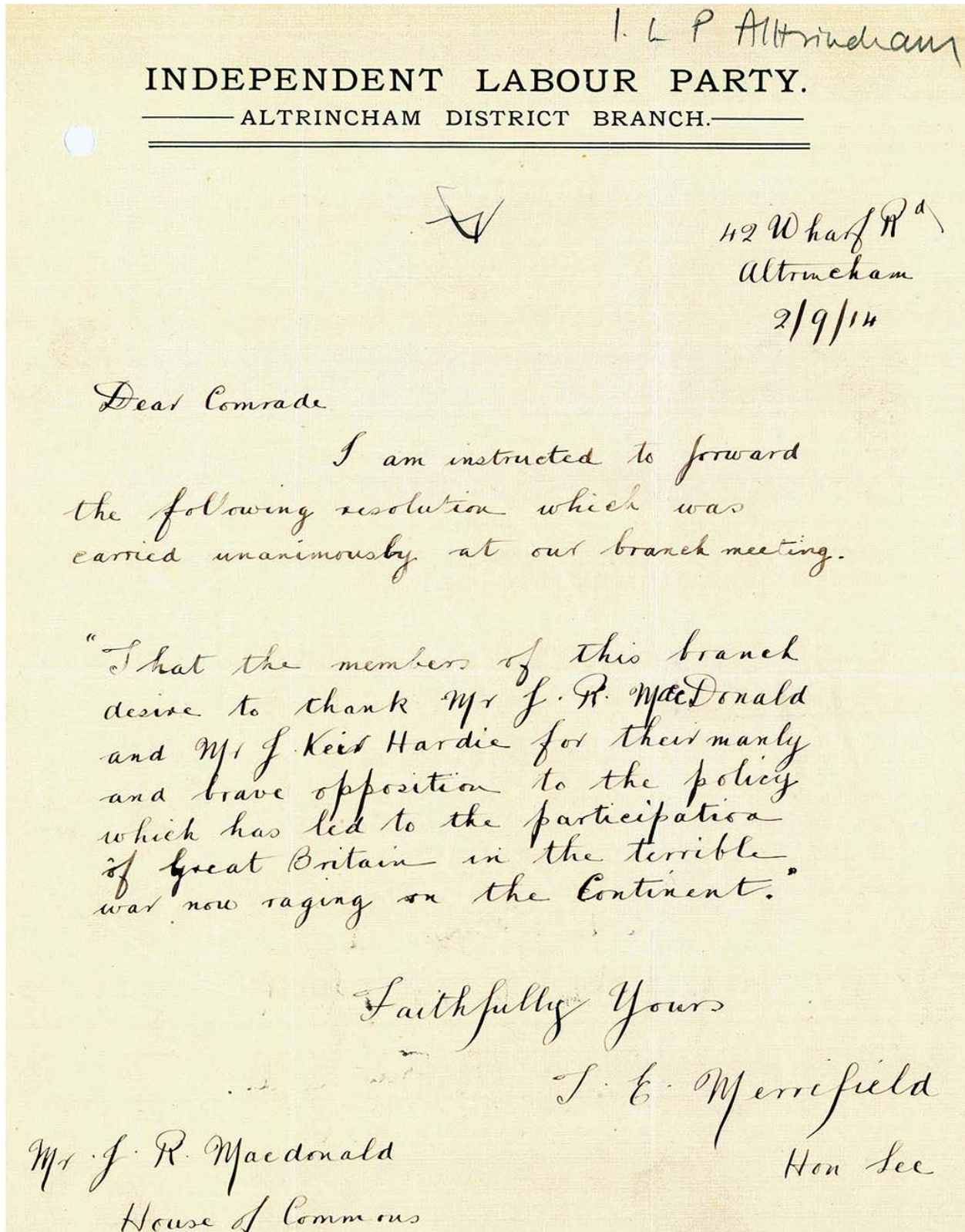
How to use this source:

Study this source carefully. There are details in this source that will help you to answer the key question. As you study the source, ask yourself:

- What is the attitude of source 1a towards the war?
- What are the similarities or differences between sources 1a and 1b?
- How far can we be sure that these sources give a fair reflection of public opinion in Britain generally?
- Documents like this are very rare after 1914. Can you explain this?



Source 1a





Source 1b



Independent Labour Party.

Mr J.P. MacDonald.

Dear Sir

I am instructed by my Branch to thank you and the Labour Party for the attitude which you have taken up concerning the European war, and the position therein of the British nation. I am also instructed to inform you that my Executive Committee has passed the following resolution:-

"That the Southend Branch of the Independent Labour Party strongly protests against the European war now in progress, which it regards as a natural result of methods of secret diplomacy. It calls upon the representatives of the people to use the utmost weight of their influence to prevent further spreading of the sphere of hostilities